



STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: December 10, 2025

PRESENTER: John Jansons, City Manager

SUBJECT: Discussion Regarding Carwash Fundraisers (JAJ)

RECOMMENDATION: Council to hear brief presentation regarding fundraising carwashes with possible direction to Staff.

DISCUSSION:

At the November 12, 2025 City Council meeting, Council requested a future agenda item to discuss the proliferation of carwash fundraisers in Kerman.

Over the past year, several organized carwashes have occurred on private property along the major business corridors, including Whitesbridge and Madera. Typically held on Saturdays and Sundays and usually affiliated with a group's fundraising, many have occurred without City notification or permits.

In an effort to respond to community complaints and concerns about unpermitted carwashes, Staff often learns about these events after the fact and is unable to respond effectively, as most events occurring on Saturdays and Sundays when City Hall Staff and Code Compliance Staff are off duty. Moreover, when addressed, property owners where carwashes took place claim no knowledge of the event or state that the group was not given permission to use their location (parking lot).

While noble in the desire to do work to raise funds, it is unknown if all the carwashes raise money for charitable, civic or youth groups (**Attachment 'A' for example**), or if some may be for private gain? Primary concerns for unpermitted and unregulated "pop-up" carwashes include traffic safety, storm water pollution protection, water conservation, and fraudulent fundraising.

Absent in the Kerman Municipal Code (KMC) are express regulations regarding carwash fundraisers, but the KMC does address charitable solicitation in Chapter 5.24, **Attachment 'B'**. Without express regulations for car wash fundraisers, Staff have made every effort to regulate them under Chapter 5.24. In summary, the City process based on this Chapter is as follows: 1) the event organizer completes the Charitable Solicitation Application, **Attachment 'C'**; 2) Staff review and approve; 3) the event organizer pays a nominal fee based on the City's Fee Schedule (currently \$20); and 4) the event organizer submits a final report of their proceeds to the City, and the City refunds the fee.

In conclusion, staff requests that the City Council provide suggestions and direction on whether the KMC should be amended to specifically address carwash fundraisers, what types of conditions should be placed on them, or if no further action is to be taken at this time.